

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior version and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently amended) An olefinic thermoplastic elastomer obtained by melting and kneading ingredients, the ingredients including:

a graft copolymer composed of an olefin homo/co-polymer segment formed from a nonpolar α -olefin monomer, and a vinyl ~~polymer copolymer~~ segment formed from vinyl monomers, the vinyl monomers including at least styrene and butyl acrylate, wherein the graft copolymer has a polyphase structure in which one of the olefin homo/co-polymer segment and the vinyl ~~polymer copolymer~~ segment form a dispersed phase in the other with a particle size of 0.01 to 1 μm ;

an acrylic rubber formed from a monomer mixture in which 10 to 90 wt% of methoxyethyl acrylate, 5 to 85 wt% of alkyl acrylate, 5 to 15 wt% of acrylonitrile, and 0.1 to 10 wt% of allyl methacrylate are contained as main ingredients;

0.01 to 10 wt% of a crosslinking agent with respect to the total amount of the graft copolymer and the acrylic rubber; and

0.01 to 10 wt% of a co-crosslinking agent with respect to the total amount of the graft copolymer and the acrylic rubber.

16. (Currently amended) The olefinic thermoplastic elastomer according to claim 15, wherein the vinyl ~~polymer copolymer~~ segment has a crosslinkable functional group.

17. (Previously presented) The olefinic thermoplastic elastomer according to claim 15, wherein the ratio by weight of the graft copolymer to the acrylic rubber is 95:5 to 5:95.

18. (Previously presented) The olefinic thermoplastic elastomer according to claim 15, the ingredients further including an olefin polymer or olefin copolymer formed from a nonpolar α -olefin monomer.

19. (Previously presented) The olefinic thermoplastic elastomer according to claim 18, wherein the olefin polymer or olefin copolymer formed from a nonpolar α -olefin monomer is an oil-resistant ethylene-propylene copolymer.

20. (Previously presented) The olefinic thermoplastic elastomer according to claim 15, the ingredients further including at least one additive selected from the group consisting of a plasticizer, an extender, a lubricant, and an antioxidant.

21. (Previously presented) The olefinic thermoplastic elastomer according to claim 15, the ingredients further including at least one of other thermoplastic resins or rubbers.

22. (Currently amended) An olefinic thermoplastic elastomer obtained by melting and kneading ingredients, the ingredients including:

a grafting precursor composed of particles of an olefin homo/co-polymer formed from a nonpolar α -olefin monomer, and a copolymer of [[a]] vinyl ~~monomers monomer~~ and a radically polymerizable organic peroxide, the copolymer being dispersed in the particles, the vinyl monomers including at least styrene and butyl acrylate;

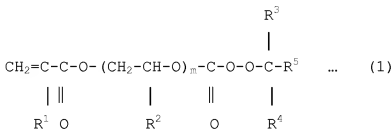
an acrylic rubber formed from a monomer mixture in which 10 to 90 wt% of methoxyethyl acrylate, 5 to 85 wt% of alkyl acrylate, 5 to 15 wt% of acrylonitrile, and 0.1 to 10 wt% of allyl methacrylate are contained as main components;

0.01 to 10 wt% of a crosslinking agent with respect to the total amount of the grafting precursor and the acrylic rubber; and

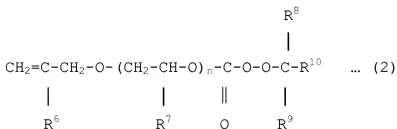
0.01 to 10 wt% of a co-crosslinking agent with respect to the total amount of the grafting precursor and the acrylic rubber.

23. (Currently amended) The olefinic thermoplastic elastomer according to claim 22, wherein the grafting precursor is obtained by immersing the vinyl ~~monomers~~ ~~monomer~~, the radically polymerizable organic peroxide, and a radical polymerization initiator in the particles of the polymer and copolymerizing the vinyl ~~monomers~~ ~~monomer~~ and the radically polymerizable organic peroxide.

24. (Previously presented) The olefinic thermoplastic elastomer according to claim 22, wherein the radically polymerizable organic peroxide is a compound represented by the formula (1) or (2):



wherein R^1 represents hydrogen atom or a C_1 to C_2 alkyl group, R^2 represents hydrogen atom or methyl group, R^3 and R^4 independently represent a C_1 to C_4 alkyl group, R^5 represents a C_1 to C_{12} alkyl group, a phenyl group, an alkyl-substituted phenyl group, or a C_3 to C_{12} cycloalkyl group, and m is an integer of 1 or 2; and



wherein R^6 represents hydrogen atom or a C_1 to C_4 alkyl group, R^7 represents hydrogen atom or methyl group, R^8 and R^9 independently represent a C_1 to C_4 alkyl group, R^{10} represents a C_1 to C_{12} alkyl group, a phenyl group, an alkyl-substituted phenyl group, or a C_3 to C_{12} cycloalkyl group, and n is an integer of 0, 1, or 2.

25. (Currently amended) The olefinic thermoplastic elastomer according to claim 22, wherein the copolymer of [[a]] vinyl ~~monomers monomer~~ and a radically polymerizable organic peroxide has a crosslinkable functional group.

26. (Previously presented) The olefinic thermoplastic elastomer according to claim 22, wherein the ratio by weight of the grafting precursor to the acrylic rubber is 95:5 to 5:95.

27. (Previously presented) The olefinic thermoplastic elastomer according to claim 22, the ingredients further including an olefin polymer or olefin copolymer formed from a nonpolar α -olefin monomer.

28. (Previously presented) The olefinic thermoplastic elastomer according to claim 27, wherein the olefin polymer or olefin copolymer formed from a nonpolar α -olefin monomer is an oil-resistant ethylene-propylene copolymer.

29. (Previously presented) The olefinic thermoplastic elastomer according to claim 22, the ingredients further including at least one additive selected from the group consisting of a plasticizer, an extender, a lubricant, and an antioxidant.

30. (Previously presented) The olefinic thermoplastic elastomer according to claim 22, the ingredients further including at least one of other thermoplastic resins or rubbers.

31. (Currently amended) A molding obtained by molding an olefinic thermoplastic elastomer obtained by melting and kneading ingredients, the ingredients including:
a graft copolymer composed of an olefin homo/co-polymer segment formed from a nonpolar α -olefin monomer, and a vinyl ~~polymer copolymer~~ segment formed from vinyl monomers, the vinyl monomers including at least styrene and butyl acrylate, wherein the graft copolymer has a polyphase structure in which one of the olefin homo/co-polymer segment and the vinyl ~~polymer copolymer~~-segment form a dispersed phase in the other with a particle size of 0.01 to 1 μm ;

an acrylic rubber formed from a monomer mixture in which 10 to 90 wt% of methoxyethyl acrylate, 5 to 85 wt% of alkyl acrylate, 5 to 15 wt% of acrylonitrile, and 0.1 to 10 wt% of allyl methacrylate are contained as main ingredients;

0.01 to 10 wt% of a crosslinking agent with respect to the total amount of the graft copolymer and the acrylic rubber; and

0.01 to 10 wt% of a co-crosslinking agent with respect to the total amount of the graft copolymer and the acrylic rubber.

32. (Previously presented) The molding according to claim 31, wherein the molding is a hose or a seal.

33. (Currently amended) A molding obtained by molding an olefinic thermoplastic elastomer obtained by melting and kneading ingredients, the ingredients including:

a grafting precursor composed of particles of an olefin homo/co-polymer formed from a nonpolar α -olefin monomer, and a copolymer of ~~[[a]] vinyl monomers, monomer~~ and a radically polymerizable organic peroxide, the copolymer being dispersed in the particles, the vinyl monomers including at least styrene and butyl acrylate;

an acrylic rubber formed from a monomer mixture in which 10 to 90 wt% of methoxyethyl acrylate, 5 to 85 wt% of alkyl acrylate, 5 to 15 wt% of acrylonitrile, and 0.1 to 10 wt% of allyl methacrylate are contained as main components;

0.01 to 10 wt% of a crosslinking agent with respect to the total amount of the grafting precursor and the acrylic rubber;

0.01 to 10 wt% of a co-crosslinking agent with respect to the total amount of the grafting precursor and the acrylic rubber.

34. (Previously presented) The molding according to claim 33, wherein the molding is a hose or a seal.

35. (New) The olefinic thermoplastic elastomer according to claim 15, wherein the vinyl monomers further include hydroxypropyl methacrylate.

36. (New) The olefinic thermoplastic elastomer according to claim 22, wherein the vinyl monomers further include hydroxypropyl methacrylate.

37. (New) The molding according to claim 31, wherein the vinyl monomers further include hydroxypropyl methacrylate.

38. (New) The molding according to claim 33, wherein the vinyl monomers further include hydroxypropyl methacrylate.